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Form PTO-1449 Atty. Docket No.: F-8436 Serial No.: (U.S. National Stage of U.S. Department of Commerce PCT/JP02/04620 Filed May 13, 2002) (Rev. 7-80) Patent and Trademark Office 42-44F (F-49) Applicant: Josuke NAKATA INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date: (Concurrently herewith) Group: (Not yet Known) **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** Examiner **Document Number** Date Name Class **Subclass** Filing Date Initial lf **Appropriate** US-4,021,323 Kilby et al. 5/3/77 3/30/82 US-4,322,379 Kilby et al. 8/22/00 Stephens et al. US- 6,106,614 US- 6,204,545 3/20/01 Nakata **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS** Date Class **Subclass Translation** Country **Document Number** Yes $\mathbf{Y}^{\mathbf{F}}$ JP JP-10-33969 2/10/98 TRANSLATION KEY: * English Abstract. F Concise statement of relevance provided in foreign search report. Concise statement of relevance provided in specification. Concise statement of relevance provided in IDS. P Relevant portion of reference translated. O English abstract only - copy of reference in pct search. OTHER INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATIONS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) Takashi TSURUE et al., Production of Spherical Germanium by Drop Tubes. The Japan Society of Microgravity Application, Vol. 15, Supplement, 1998, Pages 53 to 54 **DATE CONSIDERED EXAMINER** EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

